MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes **X**
no ____

Property Name: Christ Protestant Episcopal Church   Inventory Number: HA-28

Address: Box 215   City: Forest Hill, MD   Zip Code: 21050

County: Harford   USGS Topographic Map: Jarrettsville

Owner: Vestry of Christ Church, Rock Spring   Is the property being evaluated a district? ____ yes

Tax Parcel Number: 169   Tax Map Number: 40   Tax Account ID Number: 034410

Project: MD 24: Spenceola Parkway to Jarrettsville Road   Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT staff: X no ____ yes   Name: _____   Date: _____

Is the property is located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district   District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district ____ yes   Eligible district ____ yes   Name of District: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___ yes ___ no   Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)   Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes ____ no

Criteria: ____ A ___ B X C ____ D   Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ____ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:
Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Christ Church was surveyed by Harford County in 1977 and is included in "An Architectural History of Harford County, Maryland" by Christopher Weeks (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Press, 1996). Presumably inclusion in the County's history meant that the County determined it to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, however, there is no formal determination of eligibility.

As noted on the original Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, the Church remains a grey granite, Gothic Revival style building, dating from 1875. The bell tower was added in 1901. It is an integral part of the building, so it has not been surveyed separately. Furthermore its addition strengthens the Gothic Revival style of the building. There are also two outbuildings, one an L-shaped one storey building with a basement on the northeast side of the church while the second is a side gable one storey building which serves as the Parish House. Both buildings have asphalt shingle roofs, and the Parish House is partially clad in stone. These buildings are less than fifty years of age and are not contributing resources to the historic property. However, their construction does not lessen the architectural qualities of the church. The cemetery surrounds the church on three sides, and the graves date from the nineteenth century to the present. Because of the cemetery's relationship with the church, it is included as part of the historic property.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended **X**   Eligibility not recommended ____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B X C ___ D   Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ None

MHT Comments

_____   8/15/03
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services   Date

_____   8/15/03
Reviewer, NR Program   Date

200302352

In the interior, the church has two organs and the choir pews are perpendicular to the body of the church at the back. The walls are painted white throughout the building. Decorative painting includes an example from the nineteenth century using the scripture verse "The Lord is in His Holy Temple" on the chancel wall.   There are five memorial windows in the nave of the church. Four of the windows show Biblical scenes which were designed by H.T. Gernhardt and Company Art Glass Works, Baltimore, Maryland.

The Church's setting was at one time rural. However, due to its location in the western part of the county, late twentieth and early twenty-first century commercial and residential development is beginning to surround it. At the present time, the Church retains a large field in the northeast quadrant of the MD 23/MD 24 intersection. The church cemetery provides a buffer between the new developments and the building.

Christ Church is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, as an excellent example of third quarter nineteenth century Gothic Revival style.   Research did not identify associations with Criteria A (events) or B (people) that would also make Christ Church eligible for the National Register under these criteria. Research was not conducted under Criterion D.

Prepared by: Anne E. Bruder, SHA Arch. Hist.   Date Prepared: 05/23/2003

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____   **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ____ **A** ____ **B** ____ **C** ____ **D** **Considerations:** ____ **A** ____ **B** ____ **C** ____ **D** ____ **E** ____ **F** ____ **G** ____ **None**

MHT Comments

_____   _____
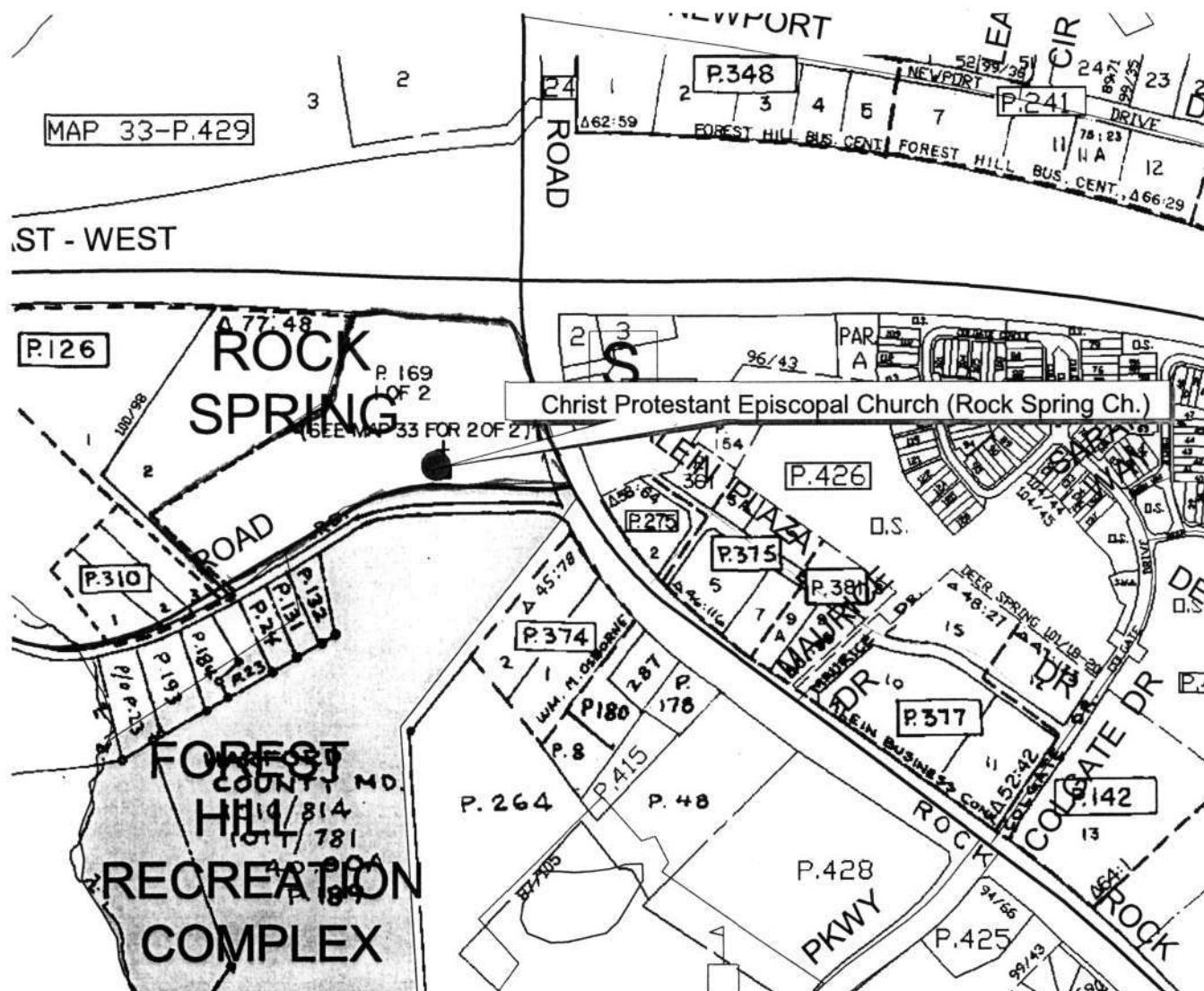   **Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services**   **Date**

_____   _____
        Reviewer, NR Program   **Date**

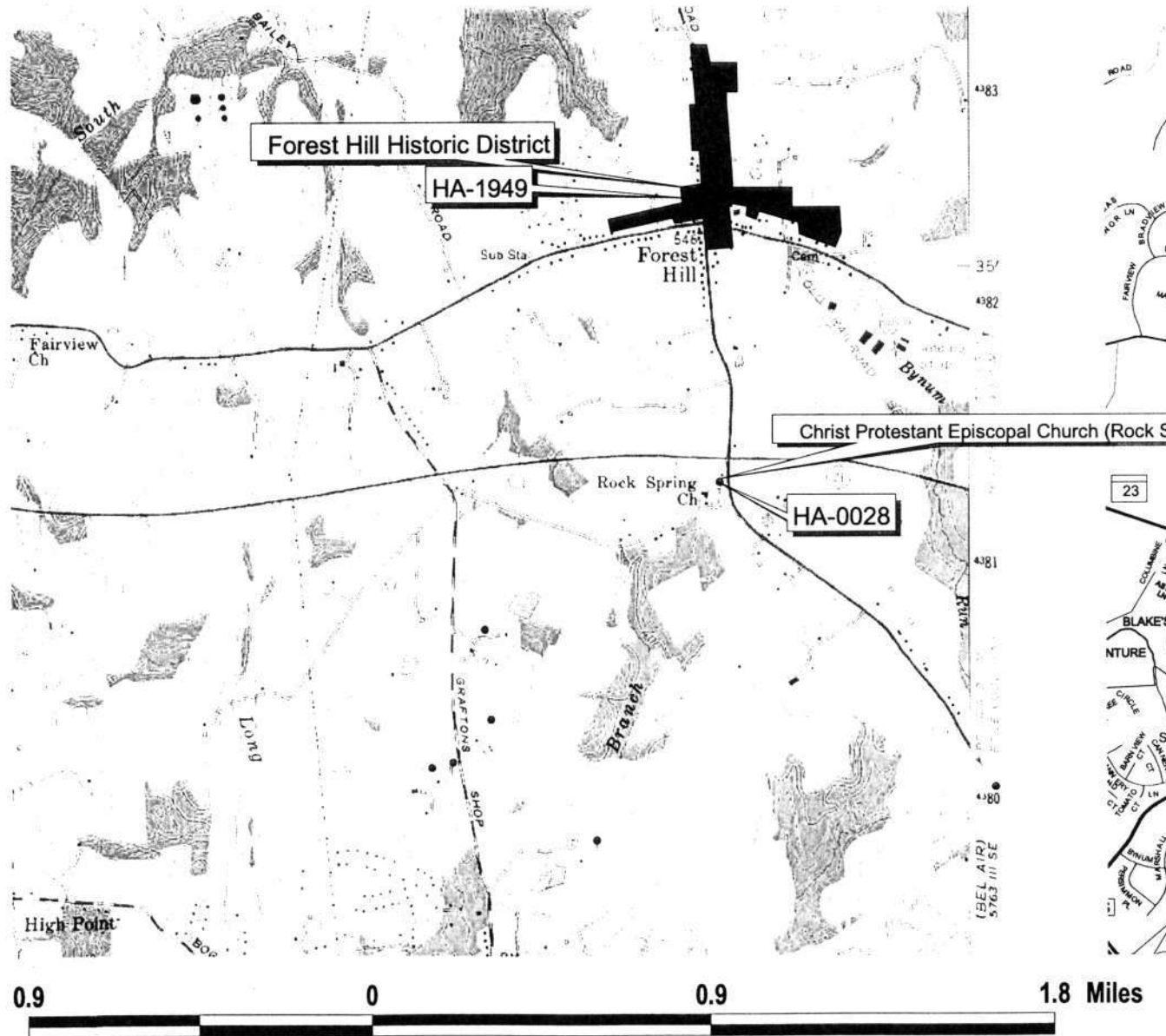# Harford County Tax Map 40 with Christ Church bounary outlined

MAP 33-P.429

ST - WEST

P.126

ROCK
SPRING

P.169
1 OF 2
(SEE MAP 33 FOR 2 OF 2)

NEWPORT

P.348

NEWPORT

P.241

DRIVE

Δ62:59

FOREST HILL BUS. CENT. FOREST HILL BUS. CENT. Δ66:29

24

ROAD

3   2

2   1

Δ77:48

P.169

S

2   3

96/43

PAR
A

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church (Rock Spring Ch.)

P.426

P.275

P.375

P.381

P.374

2.87

P.180

P.178

P.8

P.415

P.310

P.132

P.131

P.24

P.184

P.23

P.193

ROAD

P.377

FOREST
HILL
RECREATION
COMPLEX

COUNTY MD.
14/814
781
784

P.264

P.48

P.428

PKWY

P.425

ROCK

COLGATE DR

P.142

13

Swnrhp3m.shp
Mihp.shp
USGS Topo Quad Index
County

N
W   E
S

0.2   0   0.2   0.4 Miles

Jarrettsville USGS Quad

Forest Hill Historic District

HA-1949

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church (Rock S

HA-0028

Rock Spring Ch

Forest Hill

Fairview Ch

High Point

Legend:
- Swnrhp3m.shp
- Mihp.shp
- USGS Topo Quad Index
- County

0.9   0   0.9   1.8 Miles

N
W   E
S

HA 28
CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
HARFORD COUNTY, MD

R. BRUDER

APRIL 2003

VIDSHPO

EAST (FRONT) FACADE OF CHURCH
  W/ BELL TOWER

V3

NA-28
CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HARFORD Co. MD

ABERDEEN
4/2003
MD SHPO

CHRIST CHURCH CEMETERY
2/3

NA-28.

CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HARFORD Co, MD.

A. BENDER

4/2003

MDSHPO

NAVE & CHANCEL

3/3.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Christ Protestant Episcopal church

AND/OR COMMON

Rock Spring Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, Box 215

CITY, TOWN

Forest Hill ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
first

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Vestry of Christ Church, Rock Spring   Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
Box 215

CITY, TOWN
Forest Hill ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, **zip code**
MD 21050

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 567
Folio #: 123

**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.** Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Bel Air

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

**DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS**

CITY, TOWN   **STATE**

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	—DETERIORATED	—UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
—GOOD	—RUINS	X ALTERED	—MOVED DATE_____
—FAIR	—UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This church faces south and stands on the west side of Rock Spring Road, just north of Rock Spring Church Road.

The original Church structure, built in 1805, was redesigned and rebuilt in 1875 on the original site. The builing is made of grey granite. The main structure is rectangular and one story high. Walls are relatively low and thick and support a very steep slate covered roof. The roof has very wide eaves. Three lancets, a taller wider one flanked by two shorter and narrower ones, are located at the center of the south side. The main entrance is now gained through a vertical plank door on the south side of the bell tower, added in 1901.

The tower is grey granite in the Romanesque style. It has louvered, lancet vents.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X_RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X_1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES rebuilt 1875   **BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This church, organized in 1805, was originally served by rectors of St. James on the Manor. The Rev. John Coleman, rector of St. James, had much to do with the organization of this church. Mr. Coleman wrote in his diary of 1804 that he was preaching in homes of the Rock Spring neighborhood pending the building of a new church. Mr. Coleman died in 1816 and was succeeded by the Rev. John Reeder Keech, who continued to serve three churches; St. James, St. John's, and Christ Church. In 1821, a request of the congregation was granted making Christ Church a separate parish.

The original building was remodeled in 1875 by changing the walls and roof and rebuilding them to their present form. The tower was erected in 1901.

The church is similar, in some ways, to St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Emmorton, having some aspects of Early English Gothic Revival style. In the Early English manner most windows are tall narrow lancets. The church also has a very steep roof in that same manner. The tower, added in 1901, is Romanesque in style.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Directory; 1953.

Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage; 1967.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10.30

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Church is bordered on the west by the Vestry of Christ Church; on the east by Rt. 24 (Rock Spring Road); and on the south by Rock Spring Church Road.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

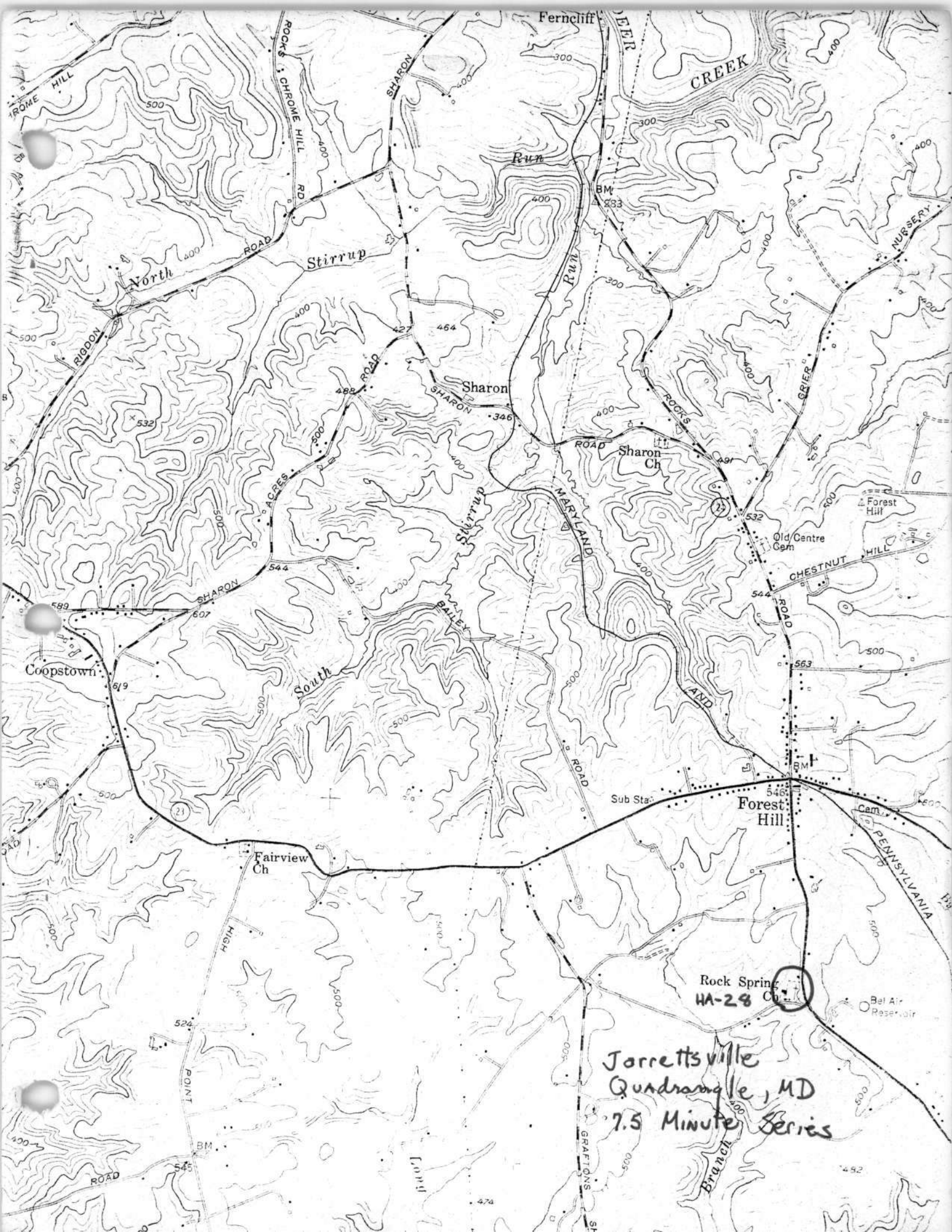| NAME / TITLE	
Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian	January 20, 1977
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Historic District Commission	838-6000 ext. 207
STREET & NUMBER	
45 South Main Street	TELEPHONE
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Bel Air	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.
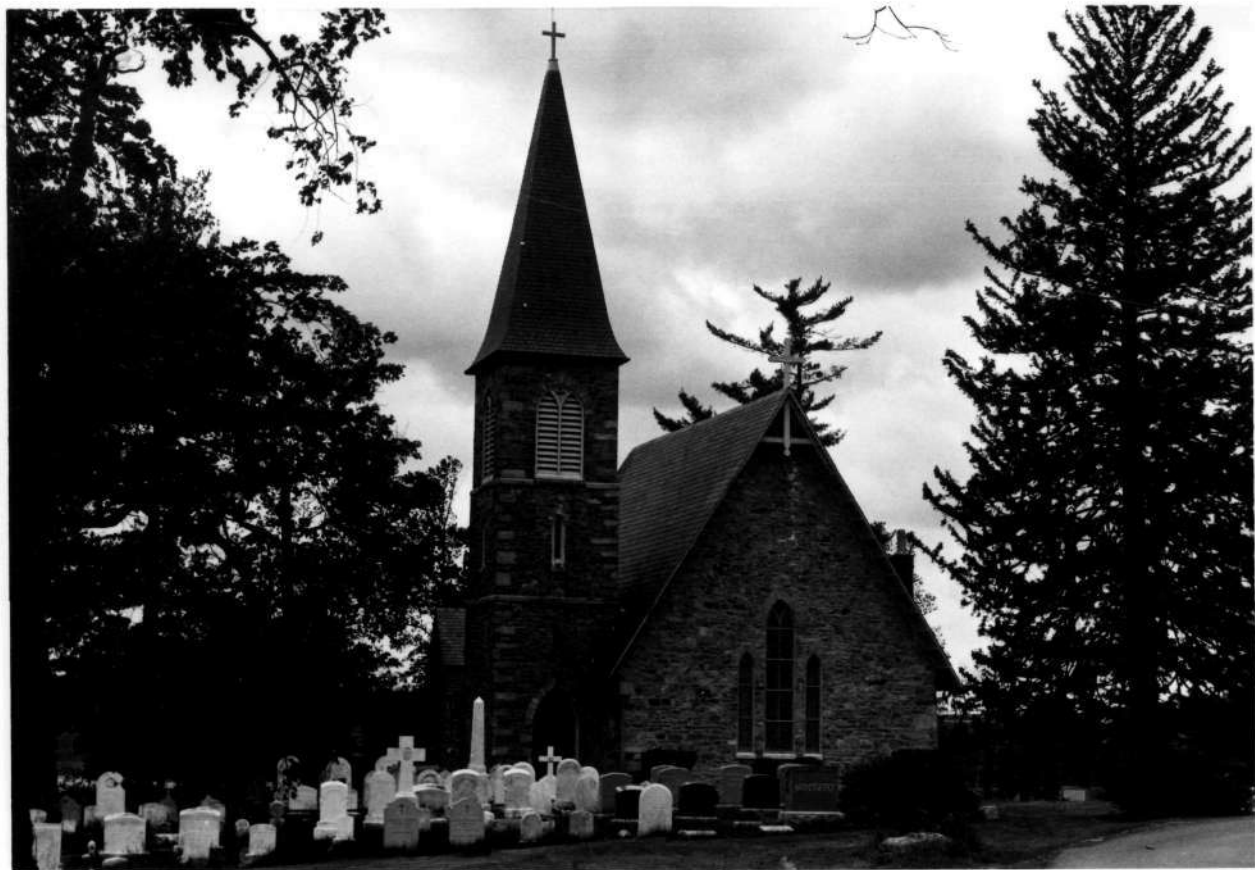
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PS-1108

Ferncliff

CREEK

DEER

Rocks Chrome Hill

CHROME HILL RD

Run

300

400

400

BM 283

North

Stirrup

STIRRUP ROAD

NORTH ROAD

RIGDON ROAD

500

400

427

464

488

Sharon

SHARON ROAD

346

Sharon Ch

400

491

Run

ROCKS ROAD

NURSERY

300

400

GRIER

532

Forest Hill

ACRES ROAD

SHARON CHURCH ROAD

MARYLAND

Old Centre Cem

CHESTNUT HILL

532

544

×532

544

SHARON ROAD

589

607

544

BAILEY ROAD

500

Coopstown

619

MARYLAND ROAD

563

500

500

South

500

500

ROAD

BM 546

Sub Sta

Forest Hill

Cem

PENNSYLVANIA

23

Fairview Ch

500

HIGH ROAD

550

500

500

524

POINT ROAD

BM 545

Long Branch

Rock Spring Ch

HA-28

Bel Air Reservoir

GRAFTONS STORE

474

482

*Jarrettsville
Quadrangle, MD
7.5 Minute Series*

Christ Episcopal Church   HA-28
Forest Hill, MD
Susan M. Deeney
May, 1977
East

HA -28

Christ Church   9 Nov 69 JSE